MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 10, 2003

TO: House Health & Human Development Committee

Senate Health & Social Services Committee

FROM: Ms. Rita Landgraf

Chairperson

State Council for Persons with Disabilities

RE: DDDS Eligibility Definition

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) recognizes that the Legislature is out of session at this time, but wanted to make you aware of a critical issue. As background, the acquired brain injury (ABI) constituency has been seeking needed state agency services for years. The Division of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDDS) has now drafted a proposed eligibility definition that has a significant impact on this constituency and we believe you should be cognizant of the ramifications.

SCPD truly appreciates that the Division graciously shared the draft definition with Council and has been very receptive in making some discrete amendments consistent with our recommendations. However, Council still has concerns which are addressed in the enclosed letter. If you would like to endorse our proposed version of the eligibility definition and other observations, please feel free to communicate that to the Division.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact SCPD if you have any questions regarding our comments on the proposed eligibility definition.

cc: Mr. John Goodier

Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens

Developmental Disabilities Council

Ms. Sandra Reyes, Esq.

Bic/dddstbi3.doc